

The Atmosphere ▪ *Guided Reading and Study***The Air Around You**

This section describes Earth's atmosphere, or the layer of gases that surrounds the planet.

Use Target Reading Skills

As you preview the section headings, write what you know about the atmosphere in the box What You Know. As you read the section, complete the What You Learned box.

What You Know
1. The atmosphere contains oxygen.
2.
3.

What You Learned
1.
2.
3.

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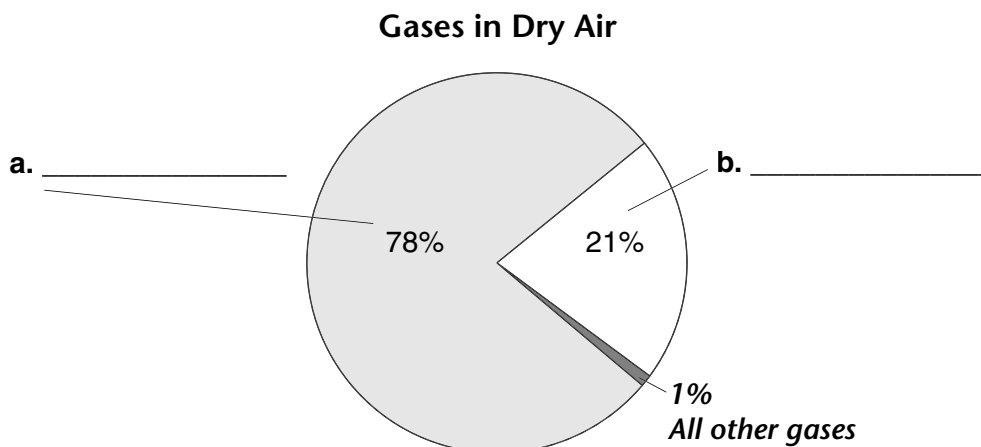
The Air Around You *(continued)*

Introduction

1. The condition of Earth's atmosphere at a particular time and place is called _____.
2. What is Earth's atmosphere?

Composition of the Atmosphere

3. Label the two larger pieces of the graph with the gases they represent.



- c. Use the graph to estimate how many times more nitrogen than oxygen makes up air. _____
 - d. What percentage of air is made of nitrogen and oxygen together? _____
4. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about nitrogen.
 - a. Humans do not breathe in nitrogen.
 - b. A nitrogen molecule has two nitrogen atoms.
 - c. Nitrogen is a gas.
 - d. Nitrogen makes up more of the air than any other gas.
 5. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about oxygen.
 - a. It is needed by animals but not plants.
 - b. It is needed to release energy from food.
 - c. It is released by fuels when they burn.
 - d. It may form ozone when it interacts with lightning.

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6. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about carbon dioxide.
 - a. It is essential to life.
 - b. It is given off by plants and animals as a waste product.
 - c. It is used by animals to digest food.
 - d. It is needed by fuels to burn.
7. Is the following sentence true or false? Carbon dioxide alone makes up almost 1 percent of dry air. _____
8. What particles does air contain?

9. Water in the form of a gas is called _____.
10. Is the following sentence true or false? Water vapor is the same as steam.

11. What role does water vapor play in Earth's weather?

Importance of the Atmosphere

12. How does Earth's atmosphere make conditions on Earth suitable for living things?
